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Building Permits

P-23 No. 6

BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES RESUME UPWARD CLIMB

NEW YORK, November 12 -- Dun & Bradstreet reports that after subsiding in May, building permits in the nation's 200 largest cities rebounded to a new record high in June of $3,554,241,240, some 13.8 per cent above May's revised sum of $3,124,584,111 and 1.6 per cent better than the previous record-high of $3,497,506,512 reached in April 1981. On a year-to-year basis, valuations ran nearly 45 per cent ahead of June 1980's $2,455,281,668 pace.

Building permits in the 199 cities outside New York climbed to a record-high in June of some $3,476,451,525, or 1.2 per cent more than the previous record of $3,434,009,336 set in April 1981. Compared with their month-earlier level of $3,039,460,550, valuations were up, 14.4 per cent, in these 199 cities. Moreover, permit issuances rose a larger 47.4 per cent from their $2,358,910,641 in June 1980.

Plans filed by builders in New York showed mixed results for June. Filings amounted to $77,789,715 that month, a 19.4 per cent improvement over May's $65,123,561 reading. Nonetheless, filings in this city were 19.3 per cent short of their like year-earlier showing of $96,371,027.

Helping to boost the 199 city total to a new high in June were strong gains (over May volumes) in Dallas, Pittsburgh, Tulsa, Boston, San Francisco, Miami and Buffalo. Somewhat smaller, though still large on a percentage basis, advances were seen in Portland, Tacoma, Baltimore, Hartford, New Orleans, Brooklyn, Columbus (Ohio), Grand Rapids, Erie and Fort Worth.

For the first half of 1981, building permits amounted to $17,771,865,364, up 22.2 per cent from $14,545,643,102 for the like time span in 1980. Of the top 25 cities in half-year 1981 permit volume, fully 20 of them posted increases over their comparable half-year 1980 performances. Houston had the largest permit volume, of $1,213,291,160. At the same time, Pittsburgh experienced the biggest percentage improvement (among the top twenty-five cities in half-year 1981 volumes), as permits there jumped nearly sevenfold to $671,396,415.

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2. JUNE BUILDING PERMIT VALUES

MONTHLY TOTAL OF BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES
1978 - 1981

	1981	1980	1979	1978
January.....	$ 2,329,353,243R	$ 2,239,448,528	$ 1,746,778,126	$ 1,555,200,317
February.....	2,457,686,843	2,425,794,216	1,717,789,184	1,566,122,444
March.....	2,808,493,415	2,652,435,406	2,476,939,618	2,181,040,038
April.....	3,497,506,512	2,456,791,560	2,451,179,009	1,970,502,609
May.....	3,124,584,111R	2,315,891,724	2,777,967,467	2,184,409,484
June.....	3,554,241,240	2,455,281,668	2,773,160,539	3,175,380,926
July.....		2,954,515,163	2,680,322,050	2,374,622,719
August.....		2,580,497,908	2,986,549,135	2,096,290,105
September.....		2,943,590,806	2,825,024,489	2,197,718,509
October.....		3,281,845,380	2,899,533,662	2,305,383,414
November.....		2,736,073,957	2,495,786,359	2,050,242,106
December.....		3,233,145,536	2,184,572,996	1,809,134,416
TOTAL.....		$32,275,311,852	$30,015,602,634	$25,466,047,087

R = Revised

Of the 200 cities included in this series the twenty-five with the largest building permit values for the first six months of 1981 were:

	(Millions of Dollars) Six Months 1981	% Change Six Months 1980
1. Houston, Tx.....	1213.3	+ 15.2
2. Los Angeles Ca.....	1135.0	+ 17.5
3. Dallas, Tx.....	777.0	+ 55.9
4. Pittsburgh, Pa.....	671.4	+ 587.5
5. Chicago, Il.....	460.6	+ 20.9
6. New York, N.Y.....	423.2	- 32.0
7. San Francisco, Ca.....	389.8	+ 20.0
8. Irving, Tx.....	373.6	+ 330.8
9. Phoenix, Az.....	355.6	+ 12.7
10. Honolulu, Hi.....	331.8	+ 26.4
11. Boston, Ma.....	322.1	+ 131.0
12. San Diego, Ca.....	318.8	+ 23.8
13. Washington, D.C.....	311.4	+ 50.9
14. Tulsa, Ok.....	304.7	+ 139.0
15. San Antonio, Tx.....	303.6	+ 72.8
16. Austin, Tx.....	278.2	+ 7.6
17. Denver, Co.....	246.7	+ 82.9
18. Oklahoma City, Ok.....	232.3	+ 98.1
19. San Jose, Ca.....	231.3	+ 23.8
20. Jacksonville, Fl.....	213.9	+ 59.5
21. Philadelphia, Pa.....	212.2	- 43.0
22. Atlanta, Ga.....	196.4	- 4.8
23. Miami, Fl.....	193.9	+ 96.7
24. Seattle, Wa.....	193.0	- 14.9
25. Columbus, Ohio.....	165.4	- 4.9

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THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES MONTHLY BUILDING PERMIT VALUES FOR THE 200 LARGEST CITIES BY POPULATION AS RECORDED IN THE 1970 CENSUS. THE FIGURES REPRESENT ESTIMATED BUILDING COSTS UNDER PERMITS ISSUED TO PROSPECTIVE BUILDERS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS FOR THE CITIES ENUMERATED. THEY INCLUDE NEW RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, AS WELL AS ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS. LAND COSTS ARE NOT INCLUDED. THE DATA ARE COMPILED FROM REPORTS FURNISHED TO DUN & BRADSTREET BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENTS OF THE VARIOUS CITIES.

RANK BY SIZE		JUNE 1981	SIX MONTHS 1981	SIX MONTHS 1980
1.	NEW YORK, NEW YORK			
	MANHATTAN	$ 23,241,000	$ 210,216,296	$ 357,689,900
	BRONX	1,278,000	24,136,782	31,053,150
	BROOKLYN	18,120,220	80,395,107	108,213,150
	QUEENS	10,295,130	66,132,590	76,890,522
	RICHMOND	4,854,365	42,275,595	48,277,945
	TOTAL NEW YORK CITY	77,789,715	423,156,370	622,124,667
2.	CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	148,661,337	460,565,041	380,826,995
3.	LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	205,871,979	1,135,047,510	966,287,796
4.	PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	19,019,354	212,158,627	372,070,626
5.	DETROIT, MICHIGAN	19,828,648	149,127,483	166,804,728
6.	HOUSTON, TEXAS	173,436,189	1,223,291,160	1,053,524,681
7.	BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	20,064,152	155,671,269	150,521,410
8.	DALLAS, TEXAS	253,875,482	777,049,095	498,566,984
9.	WASHINGTON, D. C.	85,182,517	311,388,053	206,330,741
10.	CLEVELAND, OHIO	22,890,198	60,850,982	48,188,534
11.	INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA	19,567,677	150,852,320	154,905,767
12.	MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	15,474,047	76,859,867	76,184,222
13.	SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	104,058,726	189,834,995	324,935,259
14.	SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	49,952,803	318,836,242	257,618,164
15.	SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	19,402,342	303,617,518	175,766,340
16.	BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	104,675,000	322,098,900	139,412,100
17.	MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	25,526,591	129,193,478	151,532,386
18.	ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI	15,180,409	69,476,240	76,368,182
19.	NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	40,551,442	147,756,358	69,606,574
20.	PHOENIX, ARIZONA	29,599,922	355,557,157	315,597,893
21.	COLUMBUS, OHIO	45,548,028	165,354,381	173,949,820
22.	SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	21,969,313	192,963,214	226,629,831
23.	JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA	24,211,619	213,904,014	134,094,298
24.	PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA	203,713,296	671,196,415	97,659,022
25.	DENVER, COLORADO	24,450,885	246,711,841	134,861,824
26.	KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	21,603,104	103,779,955	71,397,638
27.	ATLANTA, GEORGIA	23,154,082	196,381,573	206,305,003
28.	BUFFALO, NEW YORK	44,554,683	57,826,985	16,306,010
29.	CINCINNATI, OHIO	11,156,434	79,480,072	89,503,199
30.	NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE	18,153,125	134,791,045	82,560,712
31.	SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA	28,859,836	231,265,039	186,866,105
32.	MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA	10,870,761	58,388,034	111,138,762
33.	FORT WORTH, TEXAS	27,191,175	126,483,647	145,872,190
34.	TOLEDO, OHIO	6,797,943	40,176,052	49,961,821
35.	PORTLAND, OREGON	53,258,150	140,294,995	123,734,280
36.	NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	1,251,445	18,334,820	21,677,371
37.	OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA	40,623,077	232,322,155	117,267,047
38.	OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA	7,496,903	62,982,407	71,842,405
39.	LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY	3,117,986	28,782,191	23,803,915
40.	LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA	23,406,960	141,417,834	65,157,517
41.	OMAHA, NEBRASKA	9,878,619	44,038,478	38,427,446
42.	MIAMI, FLORIDA	81,105,537	191,875,859	98,566,789
43.	TULSA, OKLAHOMA	160,780,824	304,668,878	127,470,778
44.	HONOLULU, HAWAII	26,098,728	331,833,127	262,451,904
45.	EL PASO, TEXAS	10,247,437	115,987,349	109,300,945
46.	ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	14,352,615	50,263,790	76,941,[illegible]
47.	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA	2,808,893	46,855,035	31,729,[illegible]
48.	BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA	8,834,661	104,653,008	98,609,[illegible]
49.	ROCHESTER, NEW YORK	8,122,422	20,660,959	16,31[illegible],541
50.	TAMPA, FLORIDA	11,325,865	123,935,576	98,20[illegible],321
51.	WICHITA, KANSAS	15,788,958	86,676,088	66,93[illegible],115
52.	AKRON, OHIO	550,000	51,589,955	26,161,170
53.	TUCSON, ARIZONA	18,199,070	64,972,086	61,940,933
54.	JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY	806,475	15,347,156	33,[illegible]76,610
55.	SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA	21,675,508	92,781,752	70,[illegible]90,419
56.	AUSTIN, TEXAS	40,408,300	278,169,300	258,476,215
57.	RICHMOND, VIRGINIA	10,695,597	68,812,022	63,601,323
58.	ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO	25,789,567	99,507,998	105,504,098
59.	DAYTON, OHIO	3,735,857	31,502,700	33,982,155
60.	CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	21,232,231	123,144,387	85,687,924
61.	ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA	5,592,982	42,791,305	53,164,257
62.	CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS	14,368,159	105,055,934	100,127,218
63.	YONKERS, NEW YORK	7,555,580	29,393,155	11,376,817
64.	DES MOINES, IOWA	6,856,986	19,552,590	33,180,493
65.	GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN	26,443,352	51,093,256	57,655,319
66.	SYRACUSE, NEW YORK	3,295,484	16,844,354	9,194,928
67.	FLINT, MICHIGAN	7,144,516	20,460,199	21,270,462
68.	MOBILE, ALABAMA	6,078,974	42,267,233	87,714,805
69.	SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA	12,866,240	51,449,221	43,355,676
70.	WARREN, MICHIGAN	541,823	1,811,046	2,046,322
71.	PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND	1,406,900	8,609,200	12,346,725
72.	FORT WAYNE, INDIANA	6,400,881	31,924,516	79,982,177
73.	WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS	1,316,450	28,683,147	13,760,443
74.	SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	12,862,861	71,690,749	42,994,827
75.	GARY, INDIANA	834,343	11,170,582	4,778,492
76.	KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE	15,058,377	59,450,976	32,811,988
77.	MADISON, WISCONSIN	8,493,011	33,515,277	31,064,835
78.	VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA	19,069,724	123,721,026	106,824,189
79.	SPOKANE, WASHINGTON	3,984,953	42,380,464	52,635,032
80.	KANSAS CITY, KANSAS	3,309,191	17,637,896	14,234,944
81.	ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA	8,197,243	85,959,651	58,813,676
82.	FRESNO, CALIFORNIA	9,644,185	58,276,594	72,488,655
83.	BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA	18,836,683	92,369,446	63,782,283
84.	SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS	3,722,516	40,155,361	24,138,704
85.	HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	38,867,374	59,213,674	52,119,621
86.	SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA	8,135,198	63,524,743	36,228,642
87.	BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT	2,119,375	8,559,669	6,422,064
88.	TACOMA, WASHINGTON	46,551,110	89,057,097	46,060,501
89.	COLUMBUS, GEORGIA	3,479,782	32,322,971	46,794,942
90.	JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI	7,499,511	29,163,003	43,542,327
91.	LINCOLN, NEBRASKA	7,744,776	30,310,915	89,615,578
92.	LUBBOCK, TEXAS	17,233,395	67,714,255	38,335,625
93.	ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS	4,572,732	23,534,761	22,352,345
94.	PATERSON, NEW JERSEY	625,540	5,990,505	13,647,536
95.	GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA	4,833,549	41,198,337	44,041,107
96.	RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA	10,086,980	51,721,978	39,809,590
97.	YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO	613,855	3,041,446	5,718,145
98.	FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA	7,546,365	64,779,569	54,684,325
99.	EVANSVILLE, INDIANA	3,126,314	16,202,088	18,267,469
100.	NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA	7,042,779	67,140,166	16,832,276
101.	HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA	$ 8,510,436	$ 38,792,826	$ 42,339,206
102.	NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT	2,239,268	12,267,438	36,285,574
103.	COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO	22,259,674	111,206,207	98,258,153
104.	TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA	6,338,905	36,143,615	30,061,630
105.	MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA	3,558,400	31,468,400	39,367,100
106.	WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA	5,234,874	40,971,563	46,482,380
107.	GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA	2,278,994	43,060,696	35,379,193
108.	LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS	7,627,302	46,567,010	46,383,433
109.	LANSING, MICHIGAN	1,523,699	34,542,721	10,017,631
110.	ERIE, EPNNSYLVANIA	17,556,860	20,007,265	8,499,068
111.	AMARILLO, TEXAS	7,186,728	63,151,297	62,213,268
112.	PEORIA, ILLINOIS	2,631,414	10,257,209	20,206,339
113.	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	6,200,064	101,586,630	70,136,814
114.	SOUTH BEND, INDIANA	891,411	8,364,795	45,131,136
115.	TOPEKA, KANSAS	2,081,526	15,671,629	21,919,034
116.	GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA	6,329,378	25,899,412	32,349,735
117.	MACON, GEORGIA	3,675,481	26,816,623	25,171,367
118.	RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA	13,265,052	86,965,622	75,371,290
119.	HAMPTON, VIRGINIA	2,443,367	14,845,249	13,998,366
120.	SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI	5,255,427	31,805,316	20,731,297
121.	CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE	2,743,439	34,366,615	46,377,488
122.	SAVANNAH, GEORGIA	8,382,146	23,994,849	20,985,049
123.	BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA	1,549,278	8,972,941	20,808,337
124.	HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA	3,888,812	59,334,190	25,533,535
125.	BEAUMONT, TEXAS	8,263,520	49,982,507	69,118,165
126.	ALBANY, NEW YORK	1,797,729	11,412,937	9,455,189
127.	COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA	2,873,972	25,155,837	28,779,226
128.	PASADENA, CALIFORNIA	8,685,960	53,087,373	36,023,727
129.	ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY	189,090	7,865,050	3,439,721
130.	INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI	2,411,935	8,816,842	13,037,260
131.	PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA	1,635,249	8,920,095	7,770,721
132.	ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA	7,708,831	68,760,639	64,222,584
133.	CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA	1,885,528	13,465,739	15,108,812
134.	LIVONIA, MICHIGAN	3,498,244	16,363,045	16,782,822
135.	CANTON, OHIO	763,928	6,057,247	23,254,672
136.	ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA	3,182,970	13,182,809	16,933,215
137.	STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT	4,342,260	50,373,040	25,448,324
138.	LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY	16,776,918	132,765,964	63,549,828
139.	WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT	559,000	16,348,024	16,321,837
140.	HAMMOND, INDIANA	1,677,658	11,101,800	7,082,054
141.	STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA	12,969,641	51,460,887	63,920,734
142.	HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA	3,479,368	19,528,130	65,367,774
143.	TRENTON, NEW JERSEY	395,293	3,464,858	4,260,298
144.	SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA	8,429,772	47,897,464	36,663,821
145.	DEARBORN, MICHIGAN	2,164,299	11,738,576	12,219,002
146.	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA	1,268,750	5,401,034	10,011,702
147.	CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY	266,654	3,668,636	1,633,843
148.	HIALEAH, FLORIDA	6,902,756	23,567,035	14,250,757
149.	NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS	6,438,179	32,580,182	5,466,929
150.	FREMONT, CALIFORNIA	11,221,700	62,482,300	52,315,900
151.	DULUTH, MINNESOTA	1,694,696	10,057,702	25,177,063
152.	CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS	2,692,199	24,884,477	30,567,759
153.	PARMA, OHIO	1,328,600	5,922,526	9,694,655
154.	ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN	5,463,042	14,795,042	22,507,293
155.	ORLANDO, FLORIDA	4,317,339	76,383,409	89,407,683
156.	DAVENPORT, IOWA	3,659,631	22,370,116	12,867,120
157.	WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS	2,656,374	29,307,191	26,782,134
158.	PUEBLO, COLORADO	2,166,948	9,224,530	6,952,099
159.	IRVING, TEXAS	47,618,137	373,600,929	86,726,437
160.	FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS	993,785	3,962,668	2,865,088
161.	DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA	7,176,168	40,162,436	22,669,408
162.	SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA	6,383,873	53,117,915	46,812,872
163.	WACO, TEXAS	2,265,926	28,826,178	39,860,007
164.	RACINE, WISCONSIN	2,206,771	10,171,286	15,734,513
165.	LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS	899,663	29,277,235	20,924,971
166.	HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA	8,183,247	55,783,087	44,439,337
167.	LAKEWOOD, COLORADO	16,163,078	43,019,588	44,239,356
168.	ROANOKE, VIRGINIA	11,737,881	22,980,426	12,563,897
169.	SAGINAW, MICHIGAN	496,635	6,001,601	19,617,627
170.	NORWALK, CALIFORNIA	4,081,110	9,170,500	4,004,850
171.	SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS	3,743,954	14,089,501	12,001,401
172.	UTICA, NEW YORK	204,673	3,149,781	5,616,003
173.	NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS	7,647,867	17,067,668	6,847,810
174.	ARLINGTON, TEXAS	10,263,675	135,809,035	113,668,103
175.	DECATUR, ILLINOIS	9,634,159	20,714,048	11,437,357
176.	LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS	563,233	9,499,357	3,064,670
177.	INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA	789,440	12,728,701	19,775,019
178.	ABILENE, TEXAS	12,570,037	58,779,328	31,510,907
179.	CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA	5,508,322	24,184,488	41,794,107
180.	PASADENA, TEXAS	6,233,615	43,350,798	18,398,525
181.	BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS	469,123	18,654,146	3,839,531
182.	BURBANK, CALIFORNIA	4,318,994	25,872,977	36,768,667
183.	SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS	386,068	4,593,530	3,757,586
184.	DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA	5,841,708	19,361,493	11,157,316
185.	SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA	2,481,819	46,985,363	31,835,695
186.	ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN	371,049	2,798,248	2,587,116
187.	QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS	843,059	12,434,235	14,951,271
188.	GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN	5,825,837	16,437,885	12,037,869
189.	MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE	3,713,359	14,587,127	13,813,071
190.	SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA	22,315,310	162,752,[illegible]	32,787,864
191.	READING, PENNSYLVANIA	385,608	[illegible],424,[illegible]	4,989,181
192.	POMONA, CALIFORNIA	14,183,247	44,817,[illegible]	38,548,[illegible]
193.	MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA	981,281	40,361,[illegible]	81,[illegible],[illegible]
194.	WESTLAND, MICHIGAN	512,217	4,894,[illegible]	6,914,438
195.	SIOUX CITY, IOWA	3,148,580	7,096,265	4,001,626
196.	FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA	7,592,474	20,158,589	14,187,001
197.	NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK	190,855	7,462,581	15,476,275
198.	KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN	1,470,706	41,899,672	22,711,698
199.	ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN	721,650	3,129,685	3,570,580
200.	PONTIAC, MICHIGAN	536,503	6,615,[illegible]	16,681,341
	TOTAL: 200 LARGEST CITIES Listed Above	$3,554,241,240	$17,771,865,364	$14,545,643,102

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